

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-15 (Cancelled)

Claim 16 (New) Structure of a footwear for roller skates or ice skates comprising a soft upper, an insole made of a substantially rigid material and at least partially contained within said soft upper, a rigid support provided with a plate from which a pair of arms extend upwards to embrace and support at least laterally said upper, said footwear being adapted to be associated to a frame which supports means for resting and gliding or rolling on the ground, characterized in that the ends of said plate are open and free of vertical walls, said ends having a transverse extension corresponding approximately to the transverse extension of said frame.

Claim 17 (New) Structure according to claim 16, in which said insole is wholly contained within said soft upper.

Claim 18 (New) Structure according to claim 16, in which said footwear is associable to said frame in correspondence of the lower surface of said plate.

Claim 19 (New) Structure according to claim 18, in which said plate substantially extends from the zone of the heel to the zone of the toe and has a transverse extension corresponding approximately to the transverse extension of the surface of said frame facing said plate and adapted to be coupled thereto.

Claim 20 (New) Structure according to claim 16, in which said insole, said soft upper and said plate are connected both with each other and said frame in correspondence of the toe and heel zones with the help of removable connection means located approximately in correspondence of the longitudinal median axis of said plate.

Claim 21 (New) Structure according to claim 16, in which said pair of side arms are an integral part of said rigid support.

Claim 22 (New) Structure according to claim 16, in which said footwear further comprises a cuff pivotally associated to said side arms of said rigid support.

Claim 23 (New) Structure according to claim 16, in which said pair of side arms are an integral part of a cuff pivotally associated to said rigid support in correspondence of a pair of brackets belonging to said plate.

Claim 24 (New) Structure according to claim 16, in which said plate extends at least in the zone of the plantar arch.

Claim 25 (New) Structure according to claim 24, in which said plate is attached to said rigid insole in correspondence of the zone of the plantar arch.

Claim 26 (New) Structure according to claim 16, in which said rigid support is obtained integral with said frame, forming a single-piece construction therewith.

Claim 27 (New) Structure according to claim 24, in which said plate is connected to said frame in correspondence of recessed seats situated between and adjacent to resting surfaces provided on said frame for the heel and toe portions of the foot, respectively.

Claim 28 (New) Structure according to claim 27, in which said upper is connected to said frame in correspondence of said resting surfaces.

Claim 29 (New) Structure according to claim 28, in which said plate extends underneath said upper to essentially cover the plantar arch zone of the foot.

Claim 30 (New) Structure according to claim 17, in which said footwear further comprises a cuff pivotally associated to said side arms of said rigid support.

Claim 31 (New) Structure according to claim 18, in which said footwear further comprises a cuff pivotally associated to said side arms of said rigid support.

Claim 32 (New) Structure according to claim 19, in which said footwear further comprises a cuff pivotally associated to said side arms of said rigid support.

Claim 33 (New) Structure according to claim 20, in which said footwear further comprises a cuff pivotally associated to said side arms of said rigid support.

Claim 34 (New) Structure according to claim 21, in which said footwear further comprises a cuff pivotally associated to said side arms of said rigid support.

Claim 35 (New) Structure according to claim 17, in which said pair of side arms are an integral part of a cuff pivotally associated to said rigid support in correspondence of a pair of brackets belonging to said plate.